



PRESS RELEASE – APRIL 2016  
Exhibition and Colloquium  
Website: [newmaternalisms.com](http://newmaternalisms.com)

CONTACT FOR INTERVIEWS AND  
PRESS PREVIEW INFORMATION:  
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For immediate release: April 27, 2016

## UAlberta research lab empowers Edmonton moms and changes how we think about the work of mothering

A public colloquium of art, literature, films & discussion on the state of the maternal and climate change

The maternal has become a “hot-button” issue in contemporary feminist art and theory recently, and the subject of numerous recent conferences, exhibitions, and publications. Between the glass ceiling, breast feeding bans and working mom propaganda, the maternal is a concept often judged and rarely discussed. The Research-Creation and Social Justice CoLABoratory at the University of Alberta is hoping to change that with their upcoming event.

UAlberta's Research-Creation and Social Justice CoLABoratory, together with the Kule Institute for Advanced Study is hosting a colloquium that will feature many events, including an exhibition, a film screening, a literary salon, and a keynote address on feminist art, ecology, and the maternal from May 12 - 14 – all open to the public. As part of the event, the CoLABoratory will launch the third in a New Maternalisms exhibition series, [New Maternalisms Redux](#). The exhibition opening, set for Thursday May 12, 6 - 9 p.m., in UAlberta's FAB Gallery, will include live performance and discussion events by Canadian artist Jess Dobkin, who will present her [Lactation Station Breast Milk Bar](#). Chilean artist Alejandra Herrera will be performing a durational work upstairs in the gallery called *Testing the Waters*, along with US artists Courtney Kessel, who will perform *In-Balance-With* with her daughter Chloe, and Jill Miller, of [Milk Truck](#) fame, who will present a new work, [24-hour Family Portraits](#).

In conjunction with the art exhibition, a colloquium exploring feminist art and maternal ethics as they inform our thinking around anthropogenic climate change and energy transition will run from May 12 to 14. On Friday, May 13 this colloquium, *Mapping the Maternal: Art, Ethics and the Anthropocene*, will host a [screening](#) of Irene Lusztig's award winning [the Motherhood Archives](#) at the Garneau Theater (together with two short films: Gina Miller's *Family Tissues* and Sheena Wilson's *PetroMama*), open to the public and starting at 4pm. Immediately following this will be a [literary salon held at Remedy Cafe](#) which will include a Q&A with the filmmakers, readings by local and visiting writers, and a book launch for *Screening Motherhood in Contemporary World Cinema* (2016), edited by Asma Sayed.

Finally, the colloquium will end with a [keynote lecture by Griselda Pollock](#) – one of the most prominent figures in the field of feminist art, history, and theory – which will take place Saturday May 14, at 7pm, at the Art Gallery of Alberta.

**MEDIA ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. CONTACT INFORMATION LISTED ABOVE.**

### Event Registration:

Thursday, May 12, 6 - 9 p.m. – [New Maternalisms Redux exhibition opening](#)

Friday, May 13, 4 - 6 p.m. – [The Motherhood Archives film screening](#)

Friday, May 13, 6 - 9 p.m. – [Literary Salon + Q&A with Filmmakers](#)

Saturday, May 14, at 7-10 p.m. – [Keynote Lecture by Griselda Pollock](#)

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**Sponsors:**

The exhibition and colloquium are created with generous support from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Kule Institute for Advanced Study, the University of Alberta's Arts-based Research Studio (Faculty of Education) and the FAB Gallery (department of Art and Design).

We would also like to acknowledge the support of: Latitude 53 Contemporary Visual Culture; The University of Alberta Faculty of Arts, the Departments of Art and Design, English & Film Studies, Human Ecology, Political Science, Sociology, and Women's and Gender Studies; the Arts Research Institute of the University of California, Santa Cruz; the School of Art and Design, College of Fine Art, Ohio University; the Visual and Critical Studies Department at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago; the School of Arts, California State University, San Marcos; the STAMPS School of Art and Design, University of Michigan; The Motherhood Initiative for Research and Community Involvement (MIRCI); The Garneau Theater & Edmonton's NorthwestFest Film Festival.